As for vital statistics: "Tuey," a recent arrival, was sent to Steinhart Aquarium as a gift of the New Zealand government. Lizard-like, "Tuey" is about 20 inches long, olive green in color and has a row of yellowish spines down the back. In its native habitat the reptile lives in burrows, is carnivorous, and nocturnal. During New Zealand's mild winters it goes into semi-hibernation.

INSECT PICTURES PRAISED

MEMBERS of the Royal Entomological Society of London, in a meeting last month, were greatly impressed by a series of colored slides of Peruvian insects. The pictures, the work of Dr. Edward S. Ross, the Academy's curator of entomology, were shown by entomologist Elwood C. Zimmerman, formerly with the Bishop Museum of Honolulu, and now studying in England under the auspices of the California Academy of Sciences on a National Science Foundation Fellowship.

An excerpt from a letter to Dr. Ross by the society's secretary reads as follows:

"Needless to say, nothing approaching the quality of these pictures has been seen here before, and everyone was full of admiration of your technique and results. I am sure that your introduction of this technique will come to be regarded as one of the milestones in the development of Entomology.

"Zimmerman did a fine job in describing the country and the technique to the meeting. This, together with the quality of the pictures themselves, made it a most enjoyable meeting. We spend so much time haggling over technical details that we are apt to forget how wonderful insects really are. It was pleasant to be reminded in so striking a way. Pictures of this kind may well be the trigger that fires the enthusiasm and starts many off on an entomological career in the future."

MAN-MADE MOON

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Astronomy Section will be held at 8 P. M., Wednesday, February 22, in the Students' Lecture Room. Leon Salanave will discuss "The Man-Made Moon and the Astronomical Problems It Will Raise." The launching of the first of the proposed artificial satellites is planned for 1957-58.

According to Salanave, the temporary "moon" will provide a delicate measure of the earth's size and shape, provided some very exacting observations of the satellite's position are made. This is a problem to be met by the astronomers.

After the Section meeting there will be a session with the telescope, weather permitting.

NEW MEMBERS

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS were elected by the Council at its meeting of January 12, 1956:

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

- Miss Mildred F. Barrett
- Mr. Emmett Harrington
- Mr. Paul E. Henricks
- Mr. Richard A. Miller
- Mr. Douglas E. North
- Mrs. Ralph K. Paine
- Dr. James H. Perryman
- Mr. Donald F. Sheldon
- Mr. Quentin F. Soik
- Mr. Howard Twining

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

- Dr. Don M. Balcom
- Dr. Alfred J. Fisher
- Mr. James L. Hall
- Mr. Barrett G. Hindes
- Dr. L. J. Rather
- Dr. Allen H. Sherman

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- Mr. George Stimmel

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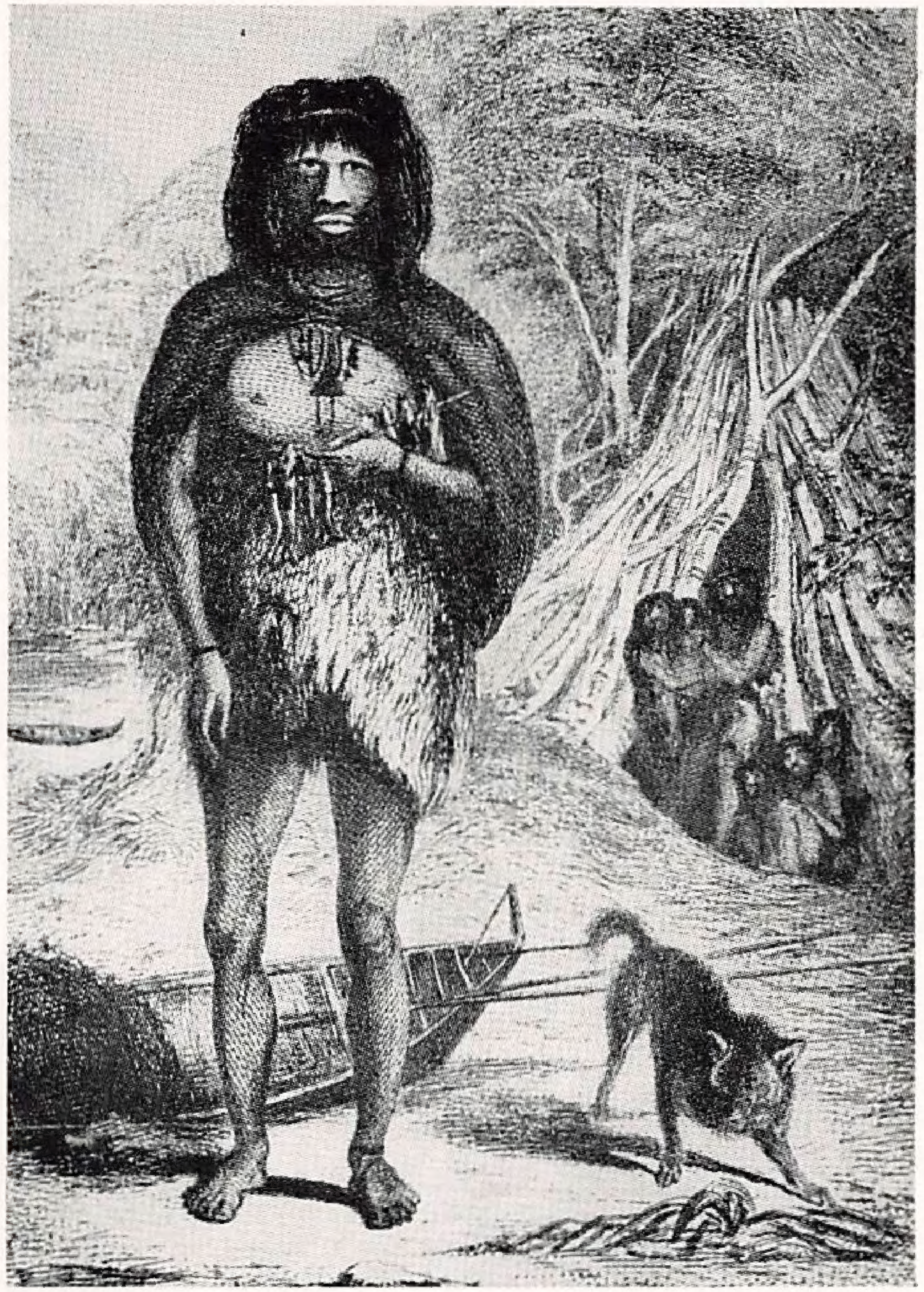

WELL-DRESSED FUEGIAN
(See Page 2)

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February Announcement

THE REGULAR February meeting of the California Academy of Sciences will be held at 8:15 P. M., Tuesday, February 21, in the May Treat Morrison Auditorium. Col. Charles Wellington Furlong, USAR-Ret., will present a lecture:

"EXPLORING THE COLD LAND OF FIRE"

Colonel Furlong's account of his explorations in Tierra del Fuego will be illustrated with colored slides. He will describe his journey across the densely forested, mountainous island, a trip in which he was alone in the company of the Onas, wolf-like men who lead a "Stone Age" existence. He also cruised with the canoe people in the regions of Cape Horn. Members of this tribe, called Yahgans, were termed the *lowest order of humanity* by Darwin, who encountered them during his voyage on the *Beagle*. The Yahgans with their neighbors, the Ona, are the southernmost inhabitants of the world and among the most primitive tribes of the earth. Furlong found them without gods, any form of religion, chiefs, and almost without clothes. On the other side of the ledger, neither do they enjoy the benefits of tobacco nor intoxicating liquors.

Colonel Furlong was the first American to penetrate the little-known island of Tierra del Fuego and the first white man to explore part of its sub-Antarctic, jungle interior. He camped, hunted, and lived the life of these folk who spoke only their own guttural tongue. With no knowledge of their language when he arrived, Furlong managed to acquire about 180 of their words by drawings and sign language. One of the most interesting facts he uncovered in exercising his limited vocabulary, though not the most comforting, was that every Ona man accompanying him could have cut more than one nick in his bow for a life taken. One could have tallied thirteen nicks, two of them for white men.

Colonel Furlong, a world traveler, served as an intelligence officer in Turkey during World War I. He was a special military aide to President Wilson aboard the *George Washington* and a member of the American Delegation to Negotiate Peace. In World War II he was an expert consultant on the Near and Middle Easts in the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department. Results of his various expeditions have been published in the *Royal Geographical Journal* and in many other publications. A collection of his Fuegian paintings was recently acquired by the Smithsonian Institution, and his collections of Fuegian artifacts are to be found in the American Museum of Natural History, the Peabody Museum at Harvard, and the Peabody Museum of Salem.

(NOTE: Our cover illustration first appeared in the now extremely rare 1839 edition of the *Journal of Researches into Geology and Natural History of the Various Countries Visited by H. M. S. "Beagle,"* by Darwin.)

HANDBOOK OF THE SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES OF THE BAY AREA

A HANDBOOK OF SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES of the San Francisco Bay Area was published by the International Science Foundation in January 1956. The publication contains information on the research facilities of industrial laboratories, universities, research institutes and other scientific organizations as well as material on local sections of engineering and scientific societies.

The Handbook will provide local executives with a ready index of technical resources and will also serve visiting scientists by facilitating contacts with Bay Area colleagues who are working on problems in their fields. It will bring to the attention of the rest of the United States and other countries the scientific resources of the area and thereby help to attract related industries, permanent research activities, scientific personnel and professional meetings to northern California.

The California Academy of Sciences, as a participating member of the International Science Foundation, has served as a co-sponsor. Copies of the publication may be ordered from the Academy at a price of $2.50 plus tax.

BEAN BRAIN

SOME ANIMALS just don't seem to have the ability to take advantage of opportunity even if it clouts them over the head. Take the tuatara, for instance. It could have become extinct about 135 million years ago, so where are they today? Well, according to the two tuatara experts here at the Academy there are quite a few in New Zealand, but the only one in residence on the Pacific Coast is in a glass cage in Steinhart Aquarium.

Both Dr. Robert C. Miller, director of the Academy, and Joseph R. Slevin, curator of herpetology, think tuataras are just dandy. Only they refer to the new celebrity at the aquarium as *Sphenodon,* pointing out the tuatara in taxonomic terms is rattling around all by itself in one big *order,* Rhynchocephalia. There are only four orders into which living reptiles are divided, so you can see that "Tuey" is quite important.

As Slevin and Miller explain it, the dinosaurs and the ancestors of the tuatara co-existed for several million years, until the dinosaurs saw what a state the changing world was getting into and decided to fossilize in wholesale quantities.

Not old "Tuey's" ancestors, though. They just kept sticking around. Now, civilization is about to do for the tuataras what their ancestors wouldn't do for themselves. Only a few tuataras remain in New Zealand, and they through the benevolent protection of the New Zealand government.

Aside from being a living fossil, "Tuey" is a scientific marvel in another way. This is by virtue of having a third eye. Reams of scientific literature have been written about this phenomenon. But—true to form—the tuatara can't see with its third eye, nor can it be seen. The "eye" is hid beneath the scales on the little reptile's forehead.

One can say, in favor of the tuatara, that it doesn't change much—in bony structure or in any other way. Ancient members of the order Rhynchocephalia who were comparable in size had brains the size of a Navy bean — so does "Tuey."